

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----094438 160906Z /11
O 160745Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7034
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USBERLIN 1420

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: PROPOSED SCHEDULE

REF: STATE 145957

1. FOLLOWING ARE MISSION COMMENTS ON BERLIN PORTION OF
PRESIDENT'S VISIT AS DESCRIBED REFTEL. THESE COMMENTS REFLECT
VIEWS OF GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE IN CONVERSATION WITH MINISTER
JUNE 13.

2. ARRIVAL.

WE SUGGEST MORE TIME AT ARRIVAL CEREMONY. THIS WOULD
PERMIT PRESIDENT TO REVIEW US TROOPS AND GREET AMERICAN
COMMUNITY AS RECOMMENDED IN USBER 1289. WE BELIEVE ABOUT
FIVE MINUTES WILL BE REQUIRED TO DESCEND FROM THE RAMP AND
SHAKE THE HANDS OF A GREETING PARTY OF AROUND EIGHT PERSONS.
A VERY BRIEF ARRIVAL STATEMENT COULD IN OUR VIEW BE DISPENSED
WITH SINCE THE PRESIDENT WILL BE SPEAKING IMMEDIATELY
AFTERWARDS AT THE AIRLIFT MEMORIAL. WE ESTIMATE, HOWEVER,
THAT AT LEAST TEN MINUTES WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THE
PRESIDENT TO INSPECT US TROOPS PERHAPS FROM MOUNTED
VEHICLE TO INCLUDE A 21-GUN SALUTE AND THE PLAYING OF
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RUFFLES AND FLOURISHES. THEN WE WOULD ANTICIPATE THAT
THE PRESIDENT WOULD SPEND ABOUT TEN MINUTES CHATTING WITH
THE US COMMUNITY, INCLUDING WIVES AND CHILDREN, CORDONED
OFF TO THE RIGHT OR LEFT. FINALLY, FIVE MINUTES WILL BE
DESIRABLE TO DRIVE THE PRESIDENT OUT OF THE INNER RAMP AREA
TO THE MEMORIAL SITE. OVERALL, WE FEEL THIRTY MINUTES IS
REQUIRED FOR THE ARRIVAL, WHICH IS BASICALLY THE AMERICAN

PART OF THE VISIT (AND DURING WHICH THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE VISITING THE US OCCUPATION FORCES IN THE US SECTOR OF THE CITY).

3. GOLDEN BOOK CEREMONY.

WE BELIEVE TWENTY MINUTES IS ABOUT RIGHT FOR THIS CEREMONY. MAYOR STOBBE HAS TOLD US HE WILL BE AS BRIEF IN HIS REMARKS AS WE WANT, AND ALTHOUGH HE EXPECTS THE CHANCELLOR TO SPEAK AS WELL, THE CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS WILL ALSO BE VERY BRIEF. IN JUNE 13 CONVERSATION, MAYOR STOBBE ATTACHED CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO INVITING ABOUT 4,000 PERSONS FROM ALL BERLIN BOROUGHES AND FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE TO OCCUPY THE INNER RING AROUND THE MEMORIAL. THESE 4,000 WOULD PRESUMABLY INCLUDE THE 147 MEMBERS OF THE BERLIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WHO ARE OTHERWISE NOT GOING TO GET THE CHANCE TO SEE THE PRESIDENT AS A GROUP. IT SHOULD ALSO BE RECALLED THAT THE BRITISH AND FRENCH PARTICIPATED IN THE AIRLIFT, AND THAT 39 BRITISH AIRMEN GAVE THEIR LIVES IN IT. THEREFORE, WE WOULD PROPOSE THAT A SMALL COMPOSITE UNIT OF BRITISH, FRENCH, AND AMERICAN AIRMEN BE PRESENT AS AN HONOR GUARD FOR THE GOLDEN BOOK CEREMONY, IN CONTRAST TO THE ARRIVAL WHERE ONLY US TROOPS WOULD BE PRESENT INSIDE THE AIRPORT.

4. TRIP TO POTSDAMER PLATZ AND FROM POTSDAMER PLATZ TO CONFIDENTIAL

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CONGRESS HALL.

MAYOR STOBBE WOULD LIKE THE PRESIDENT TO SELECT ROUTES THAT WOULD EXPOSE HIM TO BERLINERS. HE SUGGESTS THAT ABOUT SIX STOPS BE PREPARED AS POSSIBILITIES FOR THE PRESIDENT TO STOP AND SHAKE HANDS WITH ASSEMBLED BERLINERS. OF THESE, THE PRESIDENT WOULD ONLY STOP AT TWO, THE CHOICE DEPENDING ON THE POLICE ESTIMATE OF THE CROWD AS THE MOTORCADE APPROACHED. MAYOR STOBBE SUGGESTS IN PARTICULAR THAT THE ROUTE FROM POTSDAMER PLATZ TO THE CONGRESS HALL PROCEED BY THE GEDAECHTNISKIRCHE, DOWN THE KURFUERSTENDAMM TO THE LEIBNIZSTRASSE AND THROUGH THE ERNST-REUTER-PLATZ TO THE CONGRESS HALL. THIS WOULD PERMIT THE PRESIDENT TO MAKE ONE OF THE TWO STOPS ON THE KURFUERSTENDAMM, POSTWAR CENTER OF BERLIN.

5. POTSDAMER PLATZ.

WE ARE ARRANGING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THREE RAISED PLATFORMS, ONE FOR THE PRESIDENT AND TWO FOR THE PRESS AND TV, AT A SITE ABOUT 100 YARDS TO THE SOUTHEAST OF WHERE THE CURRENT VIEWING STAND IS (IT IS NOW PLACED OFF TO THE

SIDE TO REDUCE CONGESTION). WITH RESPECT TO THE GRAFFITI ON THE RECENTLY WHITEWASHED WALL AT THE POTSDAMER PLATZ, WE WOULD PROPOSE TO LEAVE THEM UNCHANGED. TO WHITEWASH IT OURSELVES WOULD BE ILLEGAL FOR THE WALL IS IN EAST BERLIN. GRAFFITI AT THE SITE WE HAVE IN MIND ARE NOW MOSTLY ANTI-WALL AND ANTI-EAST GERMAN WITH A BIT OF FAR-LEFT ANTI-WEST AND "SOCIAL IMPERIALIST" COMMENT THROWN IN.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USBERLIN 1420

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6. CONGRESS HALL.

OUR VIEWS ON HOW THE TOWN MEETING MAY BEST BE ARRANGED IN BERLIN CIRCUMSTANCE FOLLOW SEPTTEL. WITH RESPECT TO TIMING, MAYOR STOBBE WOULD DEFINITELY LIKE TO USE PART OF THE 45-MINUTE "HOLDING ROOM" PERIOD TO PERMIT TIME FOR A CONVERSATION WITH HIM, AND POSSIBLY THE CHANCELLOR, FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER, AND/OR PRESIDENT OF THE BERLIN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES LORENZ. (WITH RESPECT TO LORENZ, BERLIN CDU CHAIRMAN, HE IS VERY CONCERNED THAT THE SCENARIO MAY FREEZE HIM OUT OF ALL EVENTS. WE BELIEVE THAT ARRANGING A SHORT CONVERSATION WITH THE PRESIDENT AT THE CONGRESS HALL IS NECESSARY, IF WE ARE TO AVOID CREATING BAD WILL WITH WHAT WAS BERLIN'S LARGEST PARTY AT THE LAST ELECTIONS.)

7. DEPARTURE.

WHETHER FROM TEMPELHOF (PREFERRED) OR TEGAL, WE RECOMMEND THAT A SIMPLE DEPARTURE CEREMONY BE ARRANGED INVOLVING HONOR PLATOONS FROM EACH PROTECTIVE POWER, A SHORT DEPARTURE STATEMENT, AND, IF DESIRED, A SHORT EXHCNAGE WITH THE PRESS. RE THE PRESS, THE LOGICAL PLACE

TO ESTABLISH A PRESS CENTER FOR THE VISIT IS TEMPELHOF
WHERE THE ARRIVAL WILL TAKE PLACE AND WHERE ABUNDANT SPACE
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IS AVAILABLE. DEPARTURE FROM TEMPELHOF WOULD PERMIT
CORRESPONDENTS TO FILE THEIR COVERAGE OF THE TOWN
MEETING BEFORE BOARDING THE PRESS PLANE TO PROCEED
TO BONN.

8. OUR PRINCIPAL QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE SCENARIO AT
THIS STAGE ARE THEREFORE:

(A) CAN WE HAVE THE EXTRA TWENTY MINUTES FOR THE
PRESIDENT TO REVIEW US TROOPS AND GREET AMERICANS AT
TEMPELHOF AND AN EXTRA TEN MINUTES DURING THE VISIT TO
WORK IN THE IMPROMPTU STOPS?

(B) ARE THE IMPROMPTU STOPS POSSIBLE?

(C) WILL THE PRESIDENT BE WILLING AT THE CONGRESS HALL
TO USE PART OF THE HOLDING ROOM TIME FOR CONVERSATION
WITH STOBBE, LORENZ AND POSSIBLE SCHMIDT AND GENSCHER
OR SHOULD WE TURN OFF THIS IDEA NOW?

(D) WILL THE DEPARTURE BE FROM TEMPELHOF OR TEGEL?

9. USCOB CONCURS.

10. THIS MESSAGE HAS ALSO BE COORDINATED WITH
EMBASSY BONN.DAVIS

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